



Forest  
Service

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Mountain  
Regional Office

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**File Code:** 5140

**Date:** March 1, 2012

**Route To:**

**Subject:** Black Hills National Forest - Forest Health Pile Escaped Prescribed Fire Review Report

**To:** Chief

Enclosed is the Facilitated Learning Analysis (FLA) and review of the Forest Health Piles Prescribed Fire Escape that occurred on the Black Hills National Forest on January 13, 2012. The escape resulted in no accident or injuries to either the public or firefighting personnel. The escape resulted in approximately 3.5 acres of private property being impacted. There were no losses associated with structures.

In response to the lessons learned, the Forest Supervisor initiated a tactical pause for all pile burning on the Black Hills National Forest utilizing the Forest-wide Programmatic Level III Pile Burning Plan, and directed the Ranger Districts to prepare more site specific prescribed fire plans for pile burning on their units.

We agree with the Forest Supervisor's actions in response to the lessons learned. If you have questions regarding the review process, findings or follow-up actions please contact our Branch Chief of Fuels and Fire Ecology, Paul Langowski, at [plangowski@fs.fed.us](mailto:plangowski@fs.fed.us) or by phone at (303) 275-5307.

*/s/ Brian Ferebee (for)*  
MARIBETH GUSTAFSON  
Acting Regional Forester

Enclosures

cc: Neil Bosworth  
Frankie Romero

